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In the claims:

All of the claims standing for examination are reproduced below with indication of amendment status.

1. (Previously presented) A software instance operating on a computer platform including a model framework for specifying purpose-specific batch programs comprising:

an extensible code library;

an abstraction representing a batch program;

an abstraction representing a batch function of the program;

an abstraction representing operation of the function;

an abstraction representing a data provider to the function; and

an abstraction representing a context class of the function;

characterized in that an instantiation process of the models is initiated with appropriate input data parameters input to each abstraction generating appropriate instances of batch functions and function operations wherein the generated instances are executable as part of a run sequence of the purpose-specific batch program.

2. (Previously presented) The model framework of claim 1 wherein modeling language is unified modeling language.

3. (Original) The model framework of claim 1 wherein instantiation creates user-instance functions that are operationally linked and together define a user-instance of batch program.

4. (Previously presented) The model framework of claim 3 wherein code required to generate the user instance functions defining the program is automatically generated by the model as a result of data input and subsequent instantiation.

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5. (Original) The model framework of claim 1 wherein the data provider obtains its data from a database by query.

6. (Original) The model framework of claim 1 wherein one batch function indicates if memory management should be provided.

7. (Original) The model framework of claim 1 wherein the class encapsulates restart information and information passed between different operations.

8. (Previously presented) A method for developing an executable batch program through model instantiation comprising steps of:

(a) providing a model abstraction including program, function, class, data provider, and operation objects;

(b) inputting data into the model abstraction, the input data defining a user instance class of batch program;

(c) instantiating the model abstraction;

(d) generating code within the model abstraction, the code defining user instances of batch functions including operations and execution orders; and

(e) compiling the generated code to build the user instance batch program.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the model comprises a meta model framework.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein in step (a) the code is UML language.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein in steps (d) and (e) are automated.